

"To care for him who has borne the battle, and for his widow and orphans."

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NATIONAL TRIBUNE HEADQUARTERS,
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The National Tribune Headquarters during the National Encampment at Boston will be in Rooms 52 and 54, Hotel Vendome. The comrades may have their mail sent from home to them and make arrangements for their friends to meet in those rooms. All are welcome.

FROM the way Mosby's men are dying off in various parts of the country he must have had about 50,000.

THERE is something in a name after all. The name of Kuropatkin's right hand man is Lieut. Gen. Sloutchevsky, which is the Russianized form of the American idea of the whole outfit.

THE Czar of Russia has vetoed the proposal to have a responsible Cabinet, like more advanced nations. The Czar seems one of those who find it impossible to learn anything.

RUSSIA's officials announce that she has \$917,000,000 of free gold still in her treasury, and does not need a loan. We could have more confidence in this if the remembrance was not so fresh as to Russia's official announcements of the number of troops she had in Manchuria, and the strength and preparedness of her battle-ships at Port Arthur.

THE Western game laws appear to be taking on a vitality for which dealers and hunters have not been prepared. In Minnesota the Supreme Court has affirmed a decision assessing \$20,000 against two dealers who were found to have 2,000 wild ducks in their possession. They had brought these over from Iowa to ship to Chicago. Other indictments are pending, and there is trouble ahead for everybody who disobeys the game laws.

SCIENTISTS tell us that Great Salt Lake is doomed, and that 50 years from now it will be only a memory. It has been steadily diminishing since the arrival of the white man. Its diminution in depth since 1880 has been 1 1/2 feet. In 1900, in spite of great rainfalls, the lake went down nearly four feet. It is now more than two feet lower than it was this time last year. Three causes are assigned for this diminution. Each has its ardent advocates. These causes are evaporation, irrigation and a subterranean outlet. There are many who support the subterranean outlet theory, and think it probable, because of the neighboring lakes which have underground outlets. A few years ago a sailing vessel went down in the lake with 200 sheep on board, as though in a whirlpool. Nothing was seen of it or the sheep afterward. The irrigation theory has much evidence to produce that the fall in the lake level is caused by the excessive use of water in irrigation. A number of tributaries have their water completely side-tracked.

THERE is a strong revival of the plan of digging a tunnel across Dover Straits from England to France. The passage by boat over this narrow arm of the sea is usually very disagreeable, and brings more seasickness and discomfort than a trip across the ocean. The Straits are 20 miles wide, and with our present enlarged engineering facilities it is thought that it would not be a work of extraordinary difficulty to build a bridge across the Straits or dig a tunnel. Plans for a bridge were made 30 years ago. It then involved 300 piers, but it is now believed that 72 piers would be sufficient. The cost of the bridge would be from \$140,000,000 to \$180,000,000. The great objection to a bridge is its interference with navigation. The tunnel will cost much less—it is estimated to be from \$15,000,000 to \$50,000,000. The shores on both sides are chalk, with a thick bed of gray chalk at the bottom. The gray chalk is easy to bore, but is firm and solid in its layers. Underneath the chalk is gray sandstone and underneath this blue clay. The Straits are about 165 feet deep; therefore, the tunnel will have to be 325 feet below the surface. This would require about six and a half miles of approaches on either side, making the entire length about 33 miles. Considering the wealth of the two countries, which are in constant communication, the cost of the enterprise would seem trifling.

EVEN if Manchuria becomes a Japanese province the conditions will be much more favorable to American commercial enterprise than under Russia. With all of Russia's favorable, and specious talk, American traders have always failed in Russia. She has shut out trade with us wherever she could in her possessions, and has treated those whom she has invited to settle in Russia with conspicuous harshness. American goods have mainly gone into Russia as German or French manufactures. Germany claims one-third of all the imports into Russia but many millions of these are of American origin. The official statistics for the fiscal year 1902 give us only \$9,050,461 as the amount of our exports to Russia, a conspicuous illustration of the Russian treatment of Americans is offered by the experience of the Westinghouse Airbrake Co. and the Singer Sewing Machine Co. Both of these were induced to put up large factories in Russia, and sent over thousands of skilled mechanics. Disregarding her promise to them, Russia proceeded as soon as it was cunning to do so, to make it so unpleasant to the Americans that they had to leave their works, to be occupied and run by Russians. To-day not a single American is employed in any of their works.

LEE'S STRENGTH AT PETERSBURG.

We must again take exceptions to Mr. Swinton's statements in this week's issue. He places the number of men that Lee had in the defenses of Petersburg and Richmond at 37,000. Where he got the information for this statement puzzles us. Of course, after the war the rebel Generals minimized their forces to the utmost, but this is an astonishingly small number for any reputable authority to state. On the other hand, we have the authority of Maj. Gen. Andrew A. Humphreys, Chief of Staff of the Army of the Potomac, and the Commander of the Second Corps, for placing Lee's number at about double what Mr. Swinton gives. There can be no better authority than Gen. Humphreys. He was an accomplished soldier in every way, spared nothing to gain information, and was exceedingly careful in what he stated. He has given us the morning report of the Army of Northern Virginia for Feb. 20, 1865, which is as follows:

MORNING REPORT OF FEB. 20, 1865, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

Longstreet's First Corps—Pickett's Division, 304 officers, 4,761 enlisted men; Field's Division, 341 officers, 4,436 enlisted men; Kershaw's Division, 206 officers, 2,947 enlisted men; total, 851 officers, 12,144 enlisted men. Gordon's Second Corps—Evans's Division, Terry's Brigade, York's Brigade, Evans's Brigade, 2,300 enlisted men; Grimes's Division, Cox's Brigade, Grimes's Brigade, 3,022 enlisted men; Walker's Division, Toon's Brigade, Lewis's Brigade, Lilly's Brigade, 2,292 enlisted men; total, 458 officers, 7,623 enlisted men. Hill's Third Corps—Mason's Division, 3,220 enlisted men; Heth's Division, 4,324 enlisted men; Wilcox's Division, 5,283 enlisted men; total, 865 officers, 13,827 enlisted men. Anderson's Corps—Johnson's Division, 431 officers, 6,505 enlisted men. Total, 2,605 officers, 39,539 enlisted men. Cavalry—W. H. H. Lee, 2,000 officers, 3,939 enlisted men; Fitz Lee, 96 officers, 1,825 enlisted men; total, 281 officers, 5,760 enlisted men. Field Artillery—Pendleton, 244 officers, 5,135 enlisted men.

This report does not include a great many important bodies of men whom everybody knows were present on the 29th of March. To begin with, there was Wise's command, fully 2,000 strong. There were also the troops in the Department of Richmond, under the command of Lieut. Gen. Ewell. How many there were of these will never be known, but we know that Gen. Custis Lee, who was under the command of Gen. Ewell, had 2,700 infantry, March 20, 1865.

Besides these were other regular commands, and many thousands in more or less effective organizations of clerks, merchants and other employees of the Government Department at the rebel Capital. There were also considerable bodies of heavy artillery, and one great effective force made up of the crews of the rebel men-of-war. Rosser had a cavalry division, which certainly took part in the defense at Petersburg. The same is most likely true of Gary's brigade of cavalry.

Summing up all these, Gen. Humphreys arrives at the conclusion that Gen. Lee had, Feb. 20, not less than 44,500 effective infantry, 5,000 field artillery, and 6,000 cavalry. This makes a total of not less than 55,500 veteran troops, exclusive of the local militia which was used in the defenses, the heavy artillery, the naval forces, and Walker's Brigade. Lee's army was certainly not diminished any after Feb. 20, 1865. He foresaw clearly that the decisive struggle would come as soon as the weather permitted the Army of the Potomac to move, and he and the rebel Government strained every nerve to get in all the troops possible to hold Richmond and maintain the Southern Confederacy. The Conscription Bureau was relentless in bringing in men to fill up the ranks, and therefore this warrants the belief that Lee could not have had much less than 80,000 men when the Army of the Potomac broke camp, March 29, for the final struggle.

This is proved by the number that surrendered at Appomattox, which was 28,356. This was what was left of Lee's army after the terrible losses which it sustained in the final break around Petersburg, in the decisive fighting at Sailor's Creek, Farmville and High Bridge, where several thousands were captured, and the many thousands more who in that long race of 100 miles became discouraged and deserted. All reports concur in that all the country between Petersburg and Appomattox was filled with men of Lee's army, who saw the futility of any further fighting, and left the column to make their way home as best they could. At Sailor's Creek Lee lost 6,000 prisoners, besides 2,000 killed and wounded.

On the other hand, Gen. Grant had on the night of March 27, the following effective forces:

Army of the Potomac—	
Infantry	69,000
Artillery	6,000
Total	74,000
Army of the James—	
Infantry	32,000
Artillery	2,000
Cavalry	1,700
Total	35,700
Sheridan's Cavalry	13,000
Grand total	124,700

This was not an astonishing preponderance of forces to assault between 70,000 and 80,000 men, the strongest works ever constructed, and to head off and capture them after leaving the works. The wonder is that so small a preponderance should have cut off and forced to surrender as many as they did.

WILL END THE WAR.

As Port Arthur is sure to fall, it would seem that with the capture of Kuropatkin's army or any considerable part of it, the war will almost certainly come to an end. The Japanese have had wonderful successes and shown the most astonishing capacity for war, but they have also made the most Herculean sacrifices and efforts, and we all know that they are pretty near the end of their bank account. Their money is substantially all gone, and they have had no success in negotiating a loan in Europe, where feeling is decidedly averse to the triumph of the Yellow Man. They are coming to this country for a loan, but it is hardly thought that they will have much better luck than in Europe. It can therefore be expected that they will not make too hard terms of peace when negotiations are opened to that end. The strain on Japan's commerce and industry has been very severe, and patriotic as her people may be, a relief from that strain will be very welcome. On the other side, Russia will have demonstrated her utter incapacity for prosecuting war until her whole system is changed and a different spirit infused into her army and officials. She will be glad to make peace, as she was after the Crimean War. With her administration rotten to the core, she can hope for nothing but increased humiliation and disaster if the war is continued.

NICHOLAS II., Czar OF RUSSIA.

"A Russian official," name of course not given, but showing evidence of an exact knowledge of Russian affairs, writes an article for the London Quarterly Review which has attracted much attention and comment. He says that Nicholas II. is much more of a power in his Government than he is generally credited with being, but that this power is for the worst.

He is filled to the brim with the idea of his own greatness and holy mission, which, with his rather inferior understanding and lack of knowledge, make him very mischievous in many things and terribly dangerous in others. He is very sensitive to flattery, and surrounded by those who know how to make flattery profitable to themselves. He is constantly saying things to arouse the world's applause, but acting entirely in disregard of his benevolent utterances. For example, he issued the famous manifesto of March, 1903, ordering the greatest religious tolerance in his Empire, but which was contradicted entirely in practice. The Jews have been massacred by wholesale, Roman Catholics have been persistently made victims of all kinds of abuse, repression and vexations. The exercise of their religion has been embarrassed by strong pressure put upon them everywhere in order to force them into the Orthodox Church.

The Czar not only believes himself to be God's viceroy on earth, but he takes a childish delight in miracles, marvels and the most absurd monkish superstitions. He keeps a roll of the Russian saints, and is constantly adding to it those old monks whose relics have wrought wonderful cures and surprises.

The advisers to whom he most listens are those who have ideas as to an autocracy such as prevailed all over Asia a thousand years ago. Only advisers of that class are listened to, and the head of them was the late Von Pléve, whose influence led to the massacres of the Jews, the cruel spoliation of the Armenians, the banishment of the Poles, the persecution of the Gypsies, the exile of Russian nobles, the flogging of peasants, the imprisonment and butchery of Russian workmen, the establishment of a spy system which extended to every man's family, etc., etc.

The men who advocated these principles consist of a ring of Grand Dukes who form a secret council, which can make or mar any man's fortunes. They are all insanely covetous of money and entirely reckless as to the manner in which they obtain it. They care nothing for Russia's good name or faith, in doing whatever will fill their pockets. Their latest venture was the lumber concessions on the Yalu, which more than any other thing precipitated the war with Japan. Their influence has brought things to such a pass that the solemn promise of an Ambassador is not regarded with any significance by the Foreign Ministers. They may at any time compel a Minister to dishonor himself and break all his pledges.

People are now pointing to the resemblance of the Czar to his predecessor, Paul I., who was born in 1754 and assassinated in 1801. His lack of education, egotism and fitful temper made him one of the most execrable of tyrants. At last he began to be positively insane, and a number of plots were made to assassinate him. His assassination brought the greatest rejoicings to the people of St. Petersburg and all the Empire generally.

RANK STUPIDITY.

The absolute unreason of public feeling in Russia is strikingly shown by a leading editorial in the Moscow Gazette, one of the most influential papers in the Empire:

"Our great Gen. Suvarov, when he fought against the civilized French, often gave the order 'no quarter' to the troops. This, which was not cruelty or barbarism, was a necessity, and now necessity forces us in this war with the half savage, barbarous nation to adhere to Suvarov's rule of 'no quarter.'"

"If in our war with Japan we are like a man attacked by a viper. It is not enough to frighten it and leave it to hide in the bush. It must be destroyed, and we must do this without any quarter. We must not show any leniency to the English and cosmopolitan plutocracy object or not. To burden Russia with thousands of Japanese prisoners, spreading dysentery, typhus, and other diseases, and causing the people, might perhaps be in accordance with humanitarian principles, but would be very unwise. 'No quarter' and 'no prisoners' should be our motto."

Nothing could be more preposterous than this. It shows that the Russians have not advanced in any degree beyond the savage ideas of a century ago, and can not comprehend that such a course would bring them the unmeasured denunciation of the whole Christian world, and place them outside the pale of civilization.

Then in practical application "No quarter" is a game that two can play at. The prisoners taken so far have been astonishingly few on either side, but the Japanese have apparently taken a great many more than the Russians, and it is not improbable that the bigger part of Kuropatkin's Army, as well as the whole of the garrison at Port Arthur, will soon be in the hands of the Japanese.

THE COMMISSIONER EMPHATICALLY DENIES.


EDITORIAL NATIONAL TRIBUNE: There are newspapers that are circulating the following statement:

"Commissioner Ware says that if it were not for the widows of old soldiers the pension roll would shrink with pleasing regularity, despite the operations of Order No. 78."

I have not time to notice all of the mendacity that is leveled at the Pension Bureau, its operation and myself, but as the foregoing is so exceedingly vicious I take occasion to say that I never thought or expressed any such sentiment.—E. F. WARE, Commissioner.

THE beet sugar industry shows a slow, steady growth. The reports for the year 1903 are now compiled, and they show a total product of 240,604 tons as against 218,405 tons for 1902, and 184,605 tons for 1901. There are 53 factories now in operation, against 43 the previous years. The prices which farmers received ranged from \$4.50 to \$5.00 per ton, the average being nearly \$5. The average gross returns to the farmers were \$42.50 per acre. The estimated cost of growing beets by irrigation is \$40 per acre, and in sections where irrigation is not necessary, \$30. A farmer from Otero County, Colo., did the best. He raised an acre of beets at a cost of \$37.50, the yield was 33 tons, for which he received \$158, his net returns being about \$130. There has been a remarkable increase in the percentage of sugar in beets. A few years ago 12 per cent. was the standard. Last year the average was from 15 to 18 per cent.

It is lucky that Manchuria is so big, or Kuropatkin would be limited in his proclivity for retreating.



Si nega, Marty

and their Comrades in the days
"When Johnny Came Marching Home."

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The Boys Begin Earnest Preparations for the Grand Review—The Army of the Potomac's Day.

All the available camping ground immediately around Washington, especially on the south side of the Potomac, had been camped over so much that it was not an attractive abiding place for soldiers. The alert Adjutant, however, caught on to a plot of ground that had been a brigade headquarters, and hustled the 200th Ind. to it, while the other Adjutants and Quartermasters of the other regiments were wandering around swearing at the general badness of the localities. As usual, the regiment found better than its comrades, owing to the foresight of its officers. The good men who made up the 200th Ind. had the good luck to have good officers. It makes all the difference in the world.

A regiment of the best men could be speedily ruined by bad officers, except that good men will not usually stand poor officers very long. On the other hand, good officers can make a fine regiment out of quite unpromising material. Fortunately for the country, the average of both men and officers in every regiment was high. There were always some, however, that were better than others.

After making camp, C. Q. held one of its usual important mass-meetings, to consider the situation.

Monty Scruggs was beginning a career of extended political usefulness by constituting himself the Permanent Chairman of the Committee to the Vice-presidential trying to run them according to Jefferson's Manual. He took his pipe out of his mouth, when the boys had all gathered around with their pipes, and "stated the object of the meeting" with all due dignity.

"Friends, and fellow-citizens," he began. "I know that we're not yet citizens, but the time is so near at hand when we shall be, that I'm going to begin lecturing on the word, so that we shall not appear to be awkward when we shall bear our swords into places where our bayonets into tinning-holes and mingle once more with the honest men of the country in perfect freedom and equality."

"Well, Monty, you may be calculating to go back to Indiana and mingle with those 'Copperheads' on perfect equality," interrupted a voice from the rear. "I'm going to let every one of them understand that a man who opposed the war, and helped the rebels, oughtn't to be allowed to even live in the country."

"Same here," echoed Shorty. "No equality with them for me."

"The sight of you massive marble building," continued Monty, pointing to the Capitol, "when the people sit making laws which govern us, inspires me with—inspires me with—"

"Yes, inspires you with the hope that you'll all come and wear new red neckties," interrupted Harry. "But now but men of that division will be allowed to wear their own."

"Why didn't we think of getting up something like a cornucopia or a bunch of wheat ears to wear for Indiana?" snorted Monty.

"Or big red acorns for the Fourteenth Corps?" added Harry.

"Well, the day set for the review of the Army of the Potomac," said Monty. "One of the regiments over there has got new McClellan caps for every man," reported Harry again.

"Well, all wear low-crowned black slouch hats," decided the Committee of the Whole, when the question was put to them. Si and Shorty took their arms and accoutrements to the boarding house, where they could have the society and help of their wives preparing for the great event.

"Here, boys, I've got four fine seats for you and your wives," said the Adjutant, coming in on the evening before Tuesday, March 28, the day set for the review of the Army of the Potomac. "They are on a stand in Lafayette Park, directly in front of the President's. Best place along the line to see everything. They belonged to a place of mine who had no end of trouble to get them, but who has been called away by the sickness of his father."

"Adjutant, you're laying up a big pile where the moths don't corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal," said Shorty, thinking of the text of the sermon he had heard the day before.

"Will!" said Maria reprovingly.

The great day dawned in a beauty that flags flew everywhere. The public square when Nature sets out to do her best. The brightness was tempered by a coolness which made it perfect for men to march. The audience was worthy of the day and the event. People had gathered from all over the country to witness the grand pageant of peace. They packed the long, broad avenue from the White House to the Capitol, and the wide space reserved for the marching column. There was not a foot of ground for another man to stand upon. The cross streets, sloping down from the higher ground of F Street, were generally crowded wherever there was a chance to see. Stands were built over the circles, triangles and other vacant spaces along the Avenue, and they, like the roofs and windows, were crowded.

Flags flew everywhere. The public buildings were dressed in a wreath of bunting, and the business and private houses vied with them in their display of glad colors. It was the season of flowers. Washington was a garden of flowers. The world, the world, and loyal hands and hearts had been busy in heaping them wherever they would gladden the sight.

The names of the great victories which the Army of the Potomac had won were painted on strips of muslin stretched on prominent buildings, and across the spacious front of the great Capitol was a great inscription reading: "The Army of the Potomac." The only National Debt We Can Never Pay is the Debt We Owe to the Victorious Union Soldiers."

The seats of the boys and their wives were all the Adjutant had said. Before them, across the Avenue was the President's stand, a mass of bright bunting, with the severe beauty of the White House in the background. On either side of the President's stand were the stands of the Supreme Court, Congress, the Diplomatic Corps, Governors of States, etc.

Next to Si sat a one-armed soldier, who was a Senate employee, and apparently knew everybody. He had been at the review at once, still more so when he learned that they were Western soldiers, and from Indiana, and was at pains to point out and explain everything to them.

"There's the President now, coming into his seat," he said, pointing to a heavy-cheeked, clean-shaven man, whom they recognized at once from his pictures in the papers. "That's old Andy. There's Grant right beside him, and that clean-shaven man in naval uniform is Admiral Farragut. The one with the heavy black whiskers is Admiral Porter, and the one with the mustache and goatee, who is looking so heroically at the President, is Gen. Hancock, my old commander. I belonged to the Second Corps. We think Hancock the greatest soldier that ever lived, and he ought to have had command of the Army of the Potomac. He's in the Cabinet. The short man with the heavy black whiskers and glasses is Secretary Stanton, and the one with the long white whiskers and his hair in a curl, topknot, is Gideon Welles, the Secretary of the Navy. They're all there, except Secretary Seward, who has not got well

enough of his wounds yet to be out. You can see him sitting over there at his window."

He pointed through the elms to a large, plain brick house on the east side of Lafayette Square.

"There, see that man sitting at the window, all covered with bandages, and with a crutch at his side? That's Secretary Seward. And there's the Supreme Court," continued the one-armed man, returning to the stands across the street. That magnificent looking man sitting in front of all the rest with the clean-shaven face, and look of no-end of wisdom, is Chief Justice Chase. My, but I wish I had as many dollars as he wants to be President. But he'll never get there. Grant's to be the next President, and after him Sherman, and George Meade, and Hancock, and Phil Sheridan."

Look here, where does Pap Thomas come in?" asked Si, bringing up a little. "He ought to be in there, next to Grant and Sherman. There's where he belongs all the time."

"Well, probably we'll have to let the Republican Convention have something to say about that," laughed the man. "Gen. Thomas would suit me clear down to the ground, but I'd naturally like to have Gen. Hancock get an early chance to show whether he can run a country as well as whether he can run a battery as well as

South Mountain and Antietam, and then gone down the Mississippi to help Grant take Vicksburg. Next it was fighting Longstreet in East Tennessee, and then returned to the Army and to Port Arthur, the bloody war of fighting from the Rapidan to the Appomattox.

"That's Gen. Parke, you see there, riding behind the Ninth Corps banner, with a crutch at his side," said the one-armed veteran. "He's an engineer of ficer, steady, reliable as the day is long. No frills, no newspaper flim-flam about 'Fighting for the Union' and such like, and time, and to stay in the army. He was the First Division in Gen. O. R. Willcox, another fine soldier, who went out as Colonel of the 1st Mich., and was wounded and taken prisoner at the first Bull Run. The Second Division is commanded by Gen. S. S. Griffin, and the Third by Gen. John G. Curtin, both good soldiers, who won their stars in the field."

"Now, now you're going to see soldiers, and no mistake," continued the man, with excitement, as a flag bearing the glorious Old Leaf came around the corner. "Here comes the immortal old Second Corps, the greatest soldiers I ever lived. See that Major-General riding at the head? That's Gen. Humphreys. There's a soldier for you. Not as imposing and grand as Gen. Hancock, more scholarly, quiet and reserved, but a gentleman to the last drop of his blood. The Second Corps thinks him and Hancock the two greatest soldiers in the army, and Francis C. Barlow, a New York man, who went out as private in the 12th N. Y., and was shot all to pieces. When he lost his leg at Gettysburg, where he was left for dead, he wrote to the girl he was engaged to, telling her, because he could not expect her to marry a cripple, she wrote back that as long as she was enough of him left to hold his soul she intended to marry him. Wasn't that fine?"

"What else was there for a decent girl to say?" asked Maria. "She couldn't have had a speaking acquaintance with herself afterward, could she? Any different to a man who had been wounded in the defense of his country?"

"And there's solid old Gershom Mott, commanding the Third Division," continued the veteran. "Gershom isn't a great soldier, but the Second Corps loves him all the same. Hooray—three cheers and a tiger for the Second Corps."

"Now we have the Fifth Corps," continued their friend, but with less enthusiasm. "The Fifth Corps's great Corps, too. Of course, I wouldn't belong to any other than the Second Corps, but if I had to belong to any other, I don't know whether I would choose the Fifth or the Sixth. The Sixth won't be here to-day. They've left it down in Virginia in case of accidents. Too bad that Warren isn't riding at the head of the Fifth Corps. He is a great soldier of the Gen. Humphreys kind, but he and Gen. Sheridan couldn't get along together, and Sheridan treated him mighty badly, I think. So does everybody in the Fifth Corps. If you want a fight, just say something against Warren to a Fifth Corps man. He'll jump you, if he isn't bigger a day's rations at the end of a long march. But that's a very good man in command of the Corps—Charles Griffin. We know him, he was only a Captain commanding a battery, and a mighty good battery it was, too. That man riding at the head of the First Division is the great Gen. Chamberlain of Maine, a preacher, college professor, so on, but a first-class fighting man, and don't you forget it. That man commanding the Second Division is Gen. R. B. Ayres. He was with us, too, when he was only a battery Captain, and he was always mighty glad to have his battery around. It was good company in a fight. The commander of the Third Division is Gen. S. S. Griffin, a great soldier, who was at Gettysburg. He was an Assistant Surgeon in Port Sumner when the rebels fired in it. Well, this seems to be the end. I declare I've sat still here so long that I feel I've sat stuck into this pine board."

"Well, of all things," said Si, "if it ain't 4 o'clock. We've been here seven long hours. I never knew time to pass so quickly. I wish I had a stick of dynamite out of the crowd anywhere. They shouldn't. Great Day, hasn't it been too wonderful!"

(To be continued.)

ANOTHER RUSSIAN DEFEAT.

The reverse which the Russians suffered in the fighting at Simoucheung seems to have been one of the severest that they have yet experienced. The Japanese made an attack upon two widely-separated passes, covering the Russian left flank and the approach to the railway, and after two days succeeded in carrying both places. As usual the Russians were in strong positions, which they had fortified, but were driven from them by direct and flank attacks. Apparently Gen. Kuropatkin had notice of the likelihood of this, because the Japanese had been advancing toward these posts for several days, but he neglected to reinforce them either before or during the fighting. This implies inability to make headway in any way against the Japanese advance. The reports, as usual, reveal some features and discrepancies that are difficult to understand. Both the Russian and Japanese reports say that the positions were very difficult by nature, and they were strongly fortified, and that direct frontal attacks were made upon them. The Japanese report that their casualties were 800, of which 194 were killed and 606 wounded. They buried 700 of the enemy's dead and captured eight field guns, many rifles, and a considerable amount of ammunition and commissary supplies. They also captured eight officers and 149 men. It is impossible for anybody familiar with war to understand how the assaults, upon a fortified position, escaped with a loss of only 194 killed and 606 wounded, while inflicting a loss of 700 upon the enemy, who were sheltered behind entrenched positions. A number of Russians captured is also astonishing—only 149—and is incomprehensible for an engagement of such magnitude, in which the enemy was driven from his position. There would have been that number captured in the hospitals, to say nothing of stragglers. There is only one explanation of this; that is, that the battle was fought at such a long distance that when the Russians retreated the Japanese could not even come up with the stragglers. This victory makes the position of Gen. Kuropatkin anywhere south of Mukden absolutely untenable, and increases the probability that he will not be allowed to make good his retreat to Mukden.

SOME feeling has developed in consequence of a change in the management of the Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home at Xenia. At the meeting of the Board of Trustees Comrade James J. Smith, of Cleveland, was elected Superintendent to succeed Gen. Charles L. Young, who has held that position for a great many years. Gen. J. Warren Keifer and Dr. H. C. Houston were opposed to the change, on its being made resigned from the Board.

JUDGE PARKER has resigned his place as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New York, and now, for the first time in 30 years, is a private citizen. The step was taken after a consultation with his colleagues on the bench as to the ethics of the situation.



AT THE GRAND REVIEW.